

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The office action of June 30, 2006 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Claims 5-12 and 23-25 remain in this application. Claims 1-4, 14, 16-22, 26 and 27 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. By this amendment claims 13, 15 and 28 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claims 29-37 have been added.

Preliminarily, applicants note with appreciation the indication that the application contains allowable subject matter. Specifically, claims 5-12 and 23-25 have been allowed.

Claims 13, 15 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 6,397,233 to Okawa et al. ("Okawa") and further in view of U.S. patent no. 5,712,995 to Cohn. Notwithstanding the merits of this rejection and to expedite prosecution, applicants have canceled claims 13, 15 and 28 thereby rendering this rejection moot.

Claim 12 has been rewritten as an independent claim and new claims 29-32, which ultimately depend from claim 12, correspond to claims 6-9, which ultimately depend from allowed claim 5, and are allowable. Claim 33, which ultimately depends from claim 12 is similar to claim 24, which depends from claim 23, and is allowable. Claims 34-37, which ultimately depend from claim 23, correspond to claims 6-9, which ultimately depend from allowed claim 5, and are allowable.

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Amendment dated August 31, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of June 30, 2006

### **CONCLUSION**

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

All rejections having been addressed, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully submitted,  
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

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By: /Gary D. Fedorochko/  
Gary D. Fedorochko  
Registration No. 35,509

1001 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597  
Tel: (202) 824-3000  
Fax: (202) 824-3001  
GDF:lab